

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 INR-07 L-03 ACDA-07
NSAE-00 PA-01 SS-15 PRS-01 SP-02 USIA-06 TRSE-00
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-----190451Z 083010 /13

R 181829Z JAN 77
FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4809
INFO USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY ATHENS
AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
AMEMBASSY BERLIN
AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST
AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PRAGUE
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY SOFIA

C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 01031

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, NATO, UR, YO
SUBJECT: YUGOSLAV-SOVIET RELATIONS: BREZHNEV
VISIT

REF: USNATO 136

1. FONOFF HAS TOLD US THAT FRG REPORT IN REFTEL IS
BASED ON A TELEGRAM FROM FRG EMBASSY IN BELGRADE.
NEITHER THE EMBASSY NOR THE FONOFF HAS ACTUALLY SEEN
THE SECRET, EIGHT-PAGE LETTER FROM THE PARTY EXECUTIVE
COMMITTEE. FONOFF NOTES THAT THE TELEGRAM FROM THE
EMBASSY PARALLELS REPORTS WHICH HAVE APPEARED IN DIE
WELT, A RIGHT-CENTER GERMAN NEWSPAPER.

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2. THE DIE WELT ARTICLES WERE WRITTEN BY CARL GUSTAV
STROEHM, WHO IS BASED IN MUNICH, AND WHOSE ORIGINAL
STORY WAS PROMPTED BY A UPI REPORT FROM BELGRADE. THE
FONOFF BELIEVES THE FACT THAT STROEHM HAS ACQUIRED
INFORMATION IN MUNICH INDICATES THAT YUGOSLAV SOURCES
ARE LEAKING THE STORY ABOUT THE SECRET LETTER IN ORDER
TO GET THE YUGOSLAV VERSION OF THE BREZHNEV VISIT INTO

THE WESTERN PRESS. THAT THE SAME STORY IS BEING GIVEN THE FRG EMBASSY IN BELGRADE FURTHER SUPPORTS THIS VIEW IN THE FONOFF. SINCE THE FRG HAS NO SOURCES WHICH CAN SUBSTANTIATE OR CONTRADICT THE INFORMATION IN THE SECRET LETTER, THE FONOFF DOES NOT SPECULATE ON ITS ACCURACY BEYOND ACCEPTING THAT IT IS THE VERSION OF THE VISIT WHICH THE YUGOSLAVS WANT TO PEDDLE. IN THE MEANTIME, THE FRG EMBASSY HAS FURTHER REPORTED THAT GRLICKOV HAS BEEN TELLING WESTERN DIPLOMATS THAT HE DOES NOT BELIEVE THAT TITO SUCCEEDED IN CONVINCING BREZHNEV THAT YUGOSLAVIA WILL NEVER ABANDON ITS AUTONOMY OR POLICY OF NON-ALIGNMENT.

3. OUR SOURCE WAS SKEPTICAL ABOUT THE VALIDITY OF THE REPORT THAT TITO HAS CONCLUDED THAT BREZHNEV HAS BROKEN ROMANIA'S RESISTANCE TO FOREIGN POLICY COORDINATION. HE THOUGHT THE EMBASSY'S REPORT HAD GONE "A BIT TOO FAR" ON THIS POINT.

4. FONOFF ALSO BELIEVES ON THE BASIS OF EVIDENCE ACQUIRED DURING BREZHNEV'S VISIT AND VISIT BY HORST EHMKE TO BELGRADE THAT DOLANC IS DEFINITELY THE LEADING FIGURE IN THE PARTY AFTER TITO. IT IS NOT PREPARED TO GRANT DOLANC MORE THAN A "FIRST AMONG EQUALS" RANK, HOWEVER.
STOESSEL

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Message Attributes

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Sent Date: 18-Jan-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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